

Spanish Police Seek Aid in 'Beria' Case

By GENE FUSON
San Diego Union Staff Writer
By Trans-Atlantic Telephone

CPYRGHT

PARIS, France, Oct. 8—Spanish police today asked me to return to Madrid to work with Fabio Gallo in an effort to bring the case of Lavrenti Beria to a conclusion.

They want me to work with Gallo in attempting to establish other contacts with the man Gallo says represented himself as the purged leader of the Soviet secret police.

Spanish police are convinced there is some truth to Gallo's claim he knows that Beria escaped from Russia and is seeking sanctuary in the United States.

Vicente Reguengo, chief of Spanish political police, also told me he thinks Gerhart Eisler may be in Spain, perhaps with the man supposed to be Beria.

Beria directed the Red inter-

Editorial on Page b-4 //

national espionage rings of which Eisler had been a member.

Eisler fled the United States in 1949 as a stowaway aboard the Polish liner Batory and made his way to East Germany. He jumped bail of \$23,000 in New York in May of that year while under conviction for illegal entry.

Identified at one time as the No. 1 Communist in the United States, Eisler was ousted last April as propaganda boss for the East Germany Communist regime. Press dispatches said he retired from public life to write his memoirs.

Gallo told Spanish police he met Beria in Gibraltar, as a result of a prior secret arrangement, but was unable to effect his delivery to the United States—or anywhere else—because the United States had failed to forward the requested guarantees of safety in America.

Gallo said he received no co-

operation from United States attaches in Spain.

He said that one man who identified himself as an attache of the United States Embassy in Spain and demanded that Gallo take him personally to Beria. Gallo said he could not do that because this attache could not produce proper guarantees.

Gallo said the agent insisted he had been sent by the American government to handle the case. Gallo refused to believe him because he did not have any of the guarantees and did not exhibit any knowledge of them. Gallo said the attache then said that "if you don't co-operate with me, I'll turn you over to the Spanish police, and you know what they will do to you."

SPANISH HELPFUL

However, when the Spanish police did receive the case, they extended complete co-operation.

For six weeks United States authorities have refused to take the case seriously. It has been only in the last few days that they have shown considerable interest in the matter.

Gallo, who was taken into custody by Spanish police after he had tried to draw away from the story, evidently in fear of some retribution, has been released for another try to bring the case to an end. The story has been censored in Spain, but 12 of the top agents of the secret police have been working with Gallo.

The story has been investigated now for almost two months and the conclusion to this almost unparalleled international mystery is not yet in sight.